



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Susumu Kakidaira et al. Art Unit : 2875
Serial No. : 10/630,554 Examiner : Anabel Ton
Filed : July 30, 2003
Title : BULB INSERTION STRUCTURE OF VEHICULAR LAMP

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO ACTION OF FEBRUARY 10, 2005

In reply to the Office Action of February 10, 2005, Applicant submits the following remarks.

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing Claims 1-8, 10, and 11.

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by JP 9-219103 (Masaya). As discussed below, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration.

Figures 9, 10 and 12 of Masaya disclose a socket 28 with an engaging notch 29 formed on the periphery at the front half part, wherein fixed projections 23 from a socket fixture 22 and engaging projections 26 on the periphery of a positioning flange 25 are *superposed* and inserted to the bottom of the engaging notch 29.

Masaya does not disclose or suggest a sliding slit "having a size that allows the fixing protrusion and the engaging protrusion to only pass therethrough *separately*," as recited in claim 9. (*Emphasis added*) Instead, Figures 6-12 of Masaya disclose a slit formed in the engaging notch 29 that will allow *both* the fixed projection 23 *and* the engaging projection 26 to pass

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